



# CHARLESTOWN

PATRIOT-BRIDGE

## BPS pulls out of Commissary mitigation space at Hood Park

By Seth Daniel

The developers of Hood Park and Boston Public Schools (BPS) confirmed somewhat surprisingly on Monday that they have pulled the plug on a planned 20,000 sq. ft. Central Kitchen Commissary, negotiated at the last minute in 2019 as mitigation for the Hood Park campus expansion.

The announcement leaves a 20,000 sq. ft. hole in the development, and also a new donation of \$400,000 – the cash equivalent of the Commissary mitigation piece.

A spokesperson for BPS, Sharra Gaston, said this week that the facility – which was vaguely termed in 2019 as a food facility that would benefit students city-wide – was not ideal for BPS and they are no longer going forward with the Commissary on Hood Park.

The siting of such a facility at

(BPS Pg. 3)



## INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

*Stephen Delcuze takes the oath of office as the new commander of the J.W. Conway Bunker Hill Post 26 – The American Legion during a ceremony on Saturday afternoon, whereby he said he was ready to bring vibrancy to the post with its 70 members and their families. See Page 9 for more photos.*

## Neighborhood grows by 16 percent over 2010

By Seth Daniel

The Census 2020 numbers came in for Boston last week, and in Charlestown the total population is up by 16 percent to numbers that resemble the population of the Town in the 1960 Census – though the diversity of Charlestown, unlike the rest of Boston, remained at the same percentages as in 2010.

The total population of the Town increased from 16,439 in 2010 to 19,120 residents counted in 2020. That number is close to the 1960 Census where Charlestown had 20,147 residents, but is still far off from the peak population in 1950 when there were 31,332 Charlestown residents.

Many in the Town have felt the growth in population over the past 10 years as development has picked up and new residents move into what is one of the most desirable neighborhoods for families and young people as well.

However, historically Charlestown's 2020 population is only about in the middle of its historic population peak, and is really only starting to come out of the disastrous 1970s and 1980s when

the population declined to 13,364. According to research by the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA), Charlestown lost 57.3 percent of its population between 1950 and 1980, and only started to increase in population significantly in the 2000 Census, when it registered 15,195 people.

Even with the vibrancy and growth of the neighborhood now, it's still 12,000 people short of its peak numbers in 1950 and before.

The growth in 2020 did outpace the rest of Boston, which grew by 9.4 percent to 675,647 people citywide.

Boston's rate of growth exceeded that of the Commonwealth and the nation, which both grew at 7.4 percent over the past decade.

South Boston Waterfront is the Boston neighborhood that grew the fastest, growing 195 percent from just 1,889 in 2010 to 5,579 in 2020. According to the Census data, Allston's population fell by 5.9 percent, with a 40 percent decline in the group quarters population. This suggests that the college dorm population of Allston may have been incorrectly counted

(CENSUS Pg. 2)

## New bike trail nearing completion on Alford Street

By Seth Daniel

The MBTA and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) are nearing completion of

the shoreline stabilization project at MBTA's Charlestown Bus Facility along the Mystic River – giving full view to a much more stable shoreline and a smart look-

ing bike path connection along the waterfront.

The bike path is the most notable achievement for the community amenities, and would be a connector between the under-construction Draw 7 Park in Somerville – to include the proposed Mystic River Pedestrian and Bike Bridge from Everett – and the upcoming Sullivan Square/Rutherford Avenue Re-Design bicycle pathways to downtown Boston. The bike path on the MBTA shoreline is an important connector that would bring together Charlestown with the Northern Strand Community Path that stretches out to Nahant.

“The Draw Seven Path Extension Project will connect DCR's Mystic River Reservation via Draw 7 Park in Somerville to Alford Street



*The entrance to the new bike path and shoreline on Alford Street – soon to be completed.*

(BIKE TRAIL Pg 2)

## ANCHOR'S SUMMER BASH



Photo by Seth Daniel

*State Rep. Dan Ryan gives and early congratulations to almost-married Charlestown residents Gabrielle O'Brien and Kash Siddiqui at The Anchor's Summer Bash last Wednesday, Aug. 11, in the Navy Yard. The couple intends to marry this weekend, they said. See Page 6 for more photos.*

## Charlestown Preservation, Historical Society to hold history walk Aug. 26

By Seth Daniel

The Charlestown Preservation Society (CPS) and the Charlestown Historical Society (CHS) will host City Archeologist Joe Bagley for a free historic building walk on Aug. 26 to highlight nine structures in Charlestown that are part of a recent book Bagley published.

CPS President Amanda Zettel said the organizations were able to help Bagley when he was researching the book, and that added to the numbers of buildings that he was able to include in his book. Now, she said, they are excited to host him for the history walk.

“He reached out to us a couple of years ago to make sure he had the right information,” she said. “We were able to help him find buildings he wasn’t necessarily aware of. The survey done in 1987 didn’t have access to a lot of documents we have access to now...”

## Save Pier 5 Party will focus on getting open space on the pier

Staff Report

The Pier 5 Association has announced a Save Pier 5 Party for Thursday, Aug. 26, on or near the pier in the Navy Yard.

The event will go from 4-7 p.m. between Courageous Sailing and Pier 6 Restaurant, and will include food, music, games, refreshments, face painting educational displays and crafts.

Most critically, the Association will be talking to attendees about why saving Pier 5 is critical, what the Association says is an historic site positioned at the Head of Boston Harbor.

“With your help, Pier 5 will be restored as a public, open, maritime and historical, educational and interactive waterfront park for all to enjoy,” read information announcing the event. “Its restoration will preserve the site for future generations to access and enjoy. Its restoration will enhance the waterfront experience for residents, community, the City of Boston and visitors young and seniors.

“Pier 5 should not be developed as a restricted private commercial

We were able to suggest building he wasn’t aware of.”

She said the book highlights the oldest buildings in Boston and is meant to bring out the success of preservation efforts – all of which will be part of the discussion on the Aug. 26 walk.

“The book is to highlight these buildings that have remained more than 200 years and the efforts of preservationist’s that allowed them to remain,” she said. “We’re excited that it celebrates preservation.”

The program will consist of a small walking tour that will visit nine buildings in the area of Thompson Square. The tour will kick-off at the Warren Tavern at 5:30 p.m. on Aug. 26.

At 7 p.m., there will be an outdoor fundraiser for CPS and CHS at Memorial Hall on Green Street, with food from Beantown Smokers. The fundraiser will have a suggested donation of \$39.

venture for the benefit of a few at the expense of public access, preservation, environmental protection of Boston Harbor, the Harborwalk and waterfront open space access for all,” continued the information.

Other arguments are the historic value of the pier, the environmental resiliency benefits for flood prevention, keep the Courageous Sailing operations undisturbed, and provide green space for the growing residential population to include the upcoming Bunker Hill Housing Development.

Pier 5 is the property of the Boston Planning and Development Agency and the Agency last year put out a request for development plans there. They got three plans back, two of which were based on floating housing concepts and one that was built on the Pier. Soon after, there was a good amount of backlash from some neighbors living near Pier 5. Two groups have emerged to play up the idea of making Pier 5 into a park, and the groups have raised money to employ O’Neill & Associates to lobby for them to get federal funding via the City to restore the Pier.

## BIKE TRAIL (from pg. 1)

in Boston along the MBTA bus yard property in Somerville and Charlestown,” read information from the DCR. “Completion of the \$1.3 million DCR funded multiuse path is expected to be completed this fall with construction of the path including site features, such as bio-engineered stabilization measures along the entire length of the path, wooden guardrails, and anti-climb security fence to protect the public, along with plantings and benches accompanying the decorative path entrance with a DCR Mystic River Reservation granite pillar.”

Charlestown resident Dan Jaffe said he loved the design of the extension, but wonders how the City and state will solve the connection problems when the path gets to Sullivan Square.

“A surface cross-over is just not safe,” he said. “A pedestrian bridge across would be the other possibility, but the elevation and the needed ramp/stairs would be difficult given the space limitations. That only leaves one option, going under, and having a fully sealed submarine tunnel, but that’s going to be expensive. If, and that’s a big if, we need the Feds to come through with funding for climate readiness, then we should be able to get it added in.”

## CENSUS (from pg. 1)

in the wake of the pandemic.

Charlestown numbers showed that the 16 percent increase in population was not due to any particular race or ethnicity growing faster than another. In fact, while the numbers in most races increased over 2010, most – except the White population, stayed at the same percentages of the total population.

For instance, the Black population grew, but stayed at 5 percent of the population, and the Hispanic population grew but also stayed at 10 percent of the population. The Asian population grew but remained at 8 percent of the population. The White population did grow, but fell from 76 percent to 71 percent of the total population.

That is, of course, still much more diverse than even in 1990 when the Town was 95 percent White, or in 1960 when it was 99.4 percent White.

Citywide, though, Boston grew fast in its diverse populations, especially amongst the Hispanic and Asian populations. The Hispanic population in Boston grew by 17 percent overall since 2010, and that group makes up 18.7 percent



The pathway on the Mystic River seawall.

The crux of the project, however, was to shore up the seawall and save the Charlestown Bus Yard from flooding and erosion issues. For that, the MBTA had secured a federal resiliency grant in 2016 to repair the revetment and seawall along the Mystic River frontage.

“It is worth pointing out that without this project, the future of the T’s Charlestown bus maintenance and storage facility was in doubt,” said a spokesman from the MBTA. “The cost of replacing the

facility would exceed \$600 million, and that’s a conservative estimate.”

Some of the project challenges have included:

- Replacement of the existing failing steel pile seawall in close proximity to two large electric lines;
- Permitting and coordination among several agencies at the local, state and federal levels, and;
- Keeping the bus facility operational during construction.

of the City’s total population. The Asian population citywide grew by 38 percent over 2010, and that racial group now makes up 11.2 percent of the City’s population. The White population citywide grew by 3.8 percent (44.6 percent total), but the Black population fell by 6.4 percent and makes up 19.1 percent of the total population now.

Charlestown did stand out in the fact that it’s numbers of youth outpace the City as a whole, with sad citywide news that the population of children in Boston has continued to erode and now only makes up 15 percent citywide. Charlestown, however, has an 18 percent youth population, and that’s noted in the vast amount of youth activities and crowded schools in the Town.

Housing statistics show that some 8,932 units of housing are occupied, and just 593 were vacant at the Census count. The average household size was 2.12 people per unit, which is about the average across all neighborhoods in the city, but below the overall City average.

Citywide, Boston had 301,702 total housing units in 2020, an

Overall Charlestown population through the years:

- 1950 – 31,332
- 1960 – 20,147
- 1970 – 15,353
- 1980 – 13,364
- 1990 – 14,548
- 2000 – 15,195
- 2010 – 16,434
- 2020 – 19,120

increase of 10.7 percent from 2010. The number of housing units grew fastest in South Boston Waterfront, (281 percent since 2010), with 3,408 new units. Boston’s average household size fell slightly to 2.25. Boston’s group quarters population living in dorms, nursing homes, correctional facilities, and other institutions, increased slightly to 46,574 people. This number is about the same as 2010, making up 6.9 percent of Boston’s total population.

The full 2020 Census data is not scheduled to be released until 2022. The Research Division of the BPDA provides economic and demographic information for Boston and its neighborhoods.

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**BPS** (from pg. 1)

Hood would have meant many trucks, deliveries and dock activity coming in and out of the neighborhood.

“BPS is in search of a commissary facility to house the Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) warehouse, as the district continues to produce fresh and healthy meals for our students and their families,” she said. “BPS reviewed the Hood Park Facility in Charlestown as a potential location. The Hood Park space is 20,575 square feet, which can support some of the meal programs and not the full scope of FNS operations. There is limited storage in the facility as well as residential property abutting the location which presented concerns regarding delivery schedules, docking and city ordinances. The site is also not centrally located, which would make distribution to BPS sites across the city difficult. After multiple meetings to discuss the logistics, BPS decided not to move forward with the space. BPS will continue in search of a facility to support our needs, while steadfastly providing uninterrupted food services to our 52,000 students.”

The idea that it was to be the district’s Central Kitchen for school lunch and meals was also a revelation, as no one knew what the amenity was actually to be. When the Impact Advisory Group (IAG) crafted the mitigation agreement with Hood in 2019, former Mayor Martin Walsh’s office suddenly at the very last minute called for a kitchen type concept that would benefit all students in Boston. Many thought it was to be some sort of culinary programming space for students in the district, but few had heard that it was simply slated to be the district’s Central Kitchen, which in the past has been located in Dorchester.

The news came during an IAG meeting on Monday that was looking at the Hood Park development plans for a 156,000 sq. ft. building addition on top of the completed Hood Park Garage. That was already approved in the campus plan that got the go-ahead in 2019, but with the demand for life science space right now, it was moved forward quicker than anticipated.

Most of the discussion did center on Monday around the Commissary piece, and the now \$400,000 donation that will come to the community in place of the Commissary mitigation space.

Mark Rosenshein, of Trademark Partners, said Hood had no preference, but that the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) and local elected officials were trying to figure out

where to put the money. The first payment of that \$400,000 would come this year, and there would be four more payments over the next four years – making it about \$100,000 per year over the next five years.

“The BPDA is working with us to finalize how the payments get transferred to the community and what that would look like,” he said. “There has been discussion to add this to the Encore casino mitigation fund. Hood Park will be making the first payment this year and will continue to pay that over a five-year period.”

IAG member Joanne Massaro said she was shocked to learn there were meetings happening to dole out money the IAG didn’t even know was available.

“That \$400,000 is a big deal,” she said. “I fought for that. To hear it will be combined as part of the Wynn money, I would be upset with that. We tried to do something for the schools and the children in Charlestown...I am asking that the IAG should be included before decisions are made – before anyone even considers putting that money with the Wynn funds.”

Said IAG member Joe Savage, “I want to make sure the IAG is included in the funding decisions on that and where it goes.”

The main focus of the meeting, as stated above, was the addition on top of the parking garage, as well as an update on overall activities on the site as it’s the first major meeting on Hood since 2019.

Rosenshein told the IAG that the meeting was happening because life science space and tenant interest from that industry is blowing up for Hood Park. While the addition was always contemplated and was part of the Master Plan, he said Hood never really intended to build the addition this soon.

“By the end of the year, all of the space in 100 Hood Park Drive (garage) will be filled and leased,” he said. “That’s what’s driving this conversation and moving forward with the addition.”

The addition will be meant for lab/office/research space, but will likely be some sort of life sciences use based on current leases throughout the Park. The addition has been reported on extensively and has had multiple meetings already before the Boston Civic Design Commission (BCDC).

If approved, Rosenshein told IAG member Brian Callahan that they would like to get all the permitting done by December, and prepare to start construction in the spring of 2022. They would then anticipate a summer 2023 opening.

The building would be constructed and completed before there would be any movement, he said, on constructing the research tower at 10 Stack Street adjacent to the garage structure. That building, which was originally meant for Agri-research giant Indigo Labs, would now be built after the garage addition – or sometime after 2023.

## A NEW, BUT TEMPORARY, DOG PARK...AND A CROSSING

Hood Park announced that they plan to construct this summer a massive two-acre enclosed dog park open to the public on property that is slated for high-rise development in the future.

The dog park would feature one side for smaller dogs, and the other side for larger dogs – all paved with pea stone that is commonly used in dog parks.

Chris Kaneb, of Hood, and Mark Rosenshein, of Trademark Partners, both announced the temporary addition to Hood Park this month.

They said that with the change in order of building, they don’t plan to build on half of the land for at least two years, and the other half for about five years. As a temporary amenity for their residents, their tenants and the greater community, they decided to build out a badly-needed dog park. It would be fenced off so that dogs could be off leash legally.

Meanwhile, getting there will soon be easier from Charlestown as Rosenshein said the long-awaited signalized crossing from Charlestown to Hood across Rutherford Avenue is under construction and should be done by Labor Day.

The crossing, he said, became more complicated as it progressed to construction as the City did not want anyone walking on the “cap,” or overpass. Instead, they have had to construct a bridge-like structure over the cap so no one is walking directly on it. That is accompanied by a new on-demand stop signal that will allow pedestrians to cross safely at a signalized area.

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# Finch Therapeutics leases new home at Hood Park

By Seth Daniel

A life science therapeutics company from just over the Somerville line now located on Inner Belt Road has taken out a lease on 61,000 sq. ft. of lab/research space at Hood Park this month – making it their second location and one they are very excited about.

Finch Therapeutics said the company is growing, and Hood Park was a natural and exciting choice for expansion just a stone’s throw from their Inner Belt Road location off Cambridge Street.

“We are looking forward to opening a second location at Hood Park in Charlestown that will significantly expand our office and laboratory space to accommodate our growing team and pipeline of investigational microbiome therapeutics,” read a statement to the paper from Finch. “We are thrilled to be a member of the vibrant life sciences community in the greater Boston area.”

Chris Kaneb, of Hood Park, said the addition brings more energy to their fast-growing life sciences base at Hood Park, and also brings a major lease of a lot of space in the new garage building

– which also has a proposal now under review for adding a 156,000 sq. ft. tower above the garage for more life science uses.

“We’ve had a ton of activity lately and it’s just now percolating onto this side of Rutherford Avenue and really growing our life sciences base,” he said.

The lease also completes the lab space, parking and retail leases for the newly-constructed garage structure, which has all leases announced except a bowling and beer retail concept that isn’t yet completely public.

Landry’s Cycles, a popular bicycle retailer on Commonwealth Avenue and in the suburbs, has signed a major lease for the garage, as has an exercise gym and others.

Finch Therapeutics website said it is “developing a pipeline of microbiome therapeutics targeting gastrointestinal diseases and conditions that extend beyond the gut, with a candidate in late-stage clinical development for recurrent C. difficile, and candidates for inflammatory bowel disease, autism spectrum disorder, and chronic hepatitis B in pre-clinical development.”

There was no move-in date specified for Finch.

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# EDITORIAL

## ONLY VACCINE MANDATES AND MASKING CAN END THIS

With the Delta variant of the COVID-19 virus now ripping through America, especially in the South where folks are neither vaccinated nor take precautions such as wearing masks, it is obvious that the only way out of this pandemic is for government and businesses to mandate vaccinations for their employees and to require mask-wearing indoors.

The Delta variant -- which constituted one percent of the COVID cases in the U.S. in May but now is over 90 percent of the cases -- is proving both more transmissible and deadlier than the original COVID, especially among young people who formerly had escaped the most virulent effects of the first wave of the virus.

The hospitalization and death rates in the South are reaching cataclysmic proportions -- and this is occurring in the summertime, when people are outside and school is just getting underway.

Every private business in America should require their workers to be vaccinated for the safety and well-being of both their employees and their customers.

This also makes good business sense. After all, who wants to fly on an airplane with unvaccinated flight attendants? Or go on a cruise with an unvaccinated crew? Or go to a hospital to be treated by nurses, doctors, and others who are unvaccinated? Or be served at a restaurant by unvaccinated staff leaning over you?

All levels of government -- local, state, and federal -- also should mandate vaccines, both for the benefit of all of their workers and members of the the public with whom these employees interact.

This also includes students in universities as well as public school students for those age groups for whom the vaccine has been approved. Vaccines of all kinds already are required for enrollment in school and the COVID-19 vax is just another vaccine.

In addition, every business and government office should require masking by employees and customers to protect them from the unvaccinated and to prevent breakthrough transmissions.

The bottom line is simply this: Unless Americans find the will to get tough, get smart, and just suck it up, life never will return to normal.

## AFGHANISTAN: DEJA-VU ALL OVER AGAIN

For those of us of a certain age, the sad and tragic debacle that has been unfurling in Afghanistan this past week is deja vu all over again.

We have seen variations of this theme over the course of 60 years of our interventions into the civil wars of other nations. There was the ill-fated, American-backed Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in 1961; the fall of Saigon in 1975; the 1984 withdrawal of American forces from a multinational peacekeeping force in Lebanon after suicide bombers killed 220 Marines, 18 sailors, and three soldiers, in their barracks in Beirut; the misadventure into Somalia in the early 1990s; the total debacle of the war in Iraq; and now, the ignominious conclusion of our 20-year involvement in Afghanistan.

Presidents of both parties have been at the helm of these various incursions into the internal affairs of other nations, only to preside over humiliating and costly defeats. Three generations of American political and military leaders have not learned the lessons from these unsuccessful endeavors and therefore have been condemned to repeat the mistakes of their predecessors.

We invaded Afghanistan in the aftermath of 9/11 expressly to root out the al-Qaeda terrorists in the safe haven that they had been given by the Taliban. We accomplished that goal quickly and decisively.

Somehow however, the mission morphed into one of nation-building Afghanistan into a Western-style democracy. When the facts come out about how and why this transformation happened, we have no doubt that they will show that the cabal of the military-industrial complex, with the added wrinkle of the influence of the plethora of so-called "private contractors," proved to be the chief architects of our policy in Afghanistan.

Even in the best of circumstances, people generally do not want soldiers from another country becoming involved in their civil matters. No amount of military might is going to persuade people from achieving their own national goals -- we cannot force other nations to accept our values.

Yes, we're saddened at contemplating the fate of women and our Afghan supporters under the Taliban. And we're disappointed that the Biden administration did not have better contingency plans to factor in the swift takeover of the country by the Taliban.

The lessons of the past should have taught us that our intervention in Afghanistan never was going to end well. But it did have to end, for better or worse.

## GUEST OP-ED

### Afghanistan – God help them

Dr. Glenn Mollette

Many Americans did not want our military invading Afghanistan. We did not want our military to stay in Afghanistan. Many of us hoped our troops would leave Afghanistan. However, the chaotic departure has been one of the most humiliating moments in our nation's history.

We were all enraged toward those who had any part or interest in the September 11, 2001 attacks on our nation. This nation was in agreement that Osama Bin Laden and anyone connected to planning the attacks located in any part of the world must be brought to justice. We wanted all leaders and partakers of any and all terror groups eliminated. The attack on the World Trade Center Towers, as well as the other hideous and evil plane attacks that happened that day are forever etched in our minds. The barbaric torture and beheadings of journalists and other evil crimes against humanity fueled America's passion to do whatever necessary to bring revenge against our attackers.

Sadly, the loss of 2,448 troops in Afghanistan over 20 years was

not the answer. Also 3448 U.S. contractors have been killed. Over 66,000 Afghan military and police have been killed. Over 20,000 of our troops have been wounded.

America spent a trillion dollars setting up military bases and supposedly training the Afghan army how to fight. Yes, we were angry after September 11, 2001, but did it justify killing thousands of our men and women? Did it justify the thousands who were wounded and the thousands more who were mentally wounded? The only people who profited from our 20 years in Afghanistan are the political investors in weapons of war. Large stockholders in any entity that makes weapons or other supplies shipped to Afghanistan are not in favor of the war being over, but they and their families will most likely be forever rich.

We did one poor job of training the Afghan soldiers. The Afghan army ran in fear from the Taliban, many being executed upon their surrender. Twenty years of training went down the drain in several weeks and billions of dollars in weapons were handed over to them. The city of Kabul was taken over without hardly a shot fired

from the Taliban.

No, we should never have gone to Afghanistan the way we did. The mission of taking out key leaders of the Taliban and other terrorist groups could have been carried out more covertly. Tragically, we made the Afghanistan army and people dependent on America. Our government has done the same thing to our own nation with welfare. So many Americans are so used to the American government taking care of us and sending out government money that many Americans can no longer take care of themselves. The only thing we taught the Afghan soldiers was that they didn't have to worry about fighting because the United States was present and would take care of them.

Going there is water under the bridge. We are now forever faced with the tragic way we have left Afghanistan. We crippled them with our money and their dependency on our military. After 20 years our Government leaders finally tired of carrying a crippled nation. Knowing these people cannot swim, we threw them out of the boat to sink or swim while a

(Op-Ed Pg. 5)

## LETTERS to the Editor

### WE NEED COACHES

To the Editor,

Need community services hours for your company? Would like to make extra money playing a sport you love? Interested in coaching or have coached before?

Charlestown Youth Soccer Association is looking for Head and Assistant coaches to help coach youth travel teams for the Fall 2021 season. We have coaching spots available for Grade 3/4 teams (Girls only), Grade 5/6 teams (boys and girls) and Grade 7/8 teams (boys and girls). Your commitment includes managing two practices (1 hour and 15 minutes) per week with a game on Saturdays. Curriculum will be provided on a weekly basis by a team of professional coaches and you will have support from Age Group Coordinators assigned to your team.

Partner up with work friends to coach, have fun coaching the sport you love and make a difference in

a young person's life.

If you are interested or have additional questions, please contact Charlestown Youth Soccer at [info@charlestownsoccer.com](mailto:info@charlestownsoccer.com).

Pre-season practices begin the week of Aug. 30 with the first games starting on Sept. 11.

**Charlestown Youth Soccer Association**



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# Olympic runner returns to visit Navy Yard's Anchor venue

By Seth Daniel

One never knows who might be greeting them at the door, or serving them a drink, at The Anchor in the Charlestown Navy Yard, and for those who have been loyal customers since the beginning of the venue three years ago – they were most likely served by an Olympian.

Heather MacLean was a guest of honor on Wednesday night, Aug. 11, at The Anchor's Summer Bash, shortly after she had returned from Tokyo as a member of the USA Olympic Track Team – running the 1500 meter race (One Mile) for Team USA.

"I just returned from Tokyo on Aug. 9 and I got to be a part of the closing ceremonies on Aug. 8, which was a lot of fun," she said. "Being a part of this sport is an honor and joyful to me. It's my first time ever being on the world stage. It was such a privilege to represent my country and run for my country in front of the world. It felt so surreal to wear the USA emblem on my chest. It was one of the best times of my life. Not many people make it to that stage, so it was an honor."

The Anchor owner Chris Sinclair said he was so excited to welcome MacLean back to the Anchor after she had worked so hard to get to the Olympics, and performed well there too. He said that MacLean helped him to launch The Anchor when it first opened, and came back last



*Heather MacLean, a former staffer at The Anchor in the Navy Yard, just returned from Tokyo after competing in the Olympics as a member of the USA Track & Field team – running the 1500 meter race. She was at the Anchor's Summer Bash on Aug. 11, and said it was a privilege and honor to represent the United States on the world stage.*

year for an official community talk about women in sport and her aspirations of going to the Olympics.

"She was a key part to opening the Anchor and got to know everyone here well, and we couldn't have gotten it off the ground without her," he said. "We hope to have events like we did last summer with her because it gives people a chance to tell phenomenal stories like this."

MacLean said she enjoyed working at The Anchor, and had

worked for Sinclair's company selling ice cream in Boston for some years before that.

In Tokyo, she was one of three women that made the team for the 1500 at the ultra-competitive Olympic Trials in Oregon earlier this summer. Finishing in the top three there, she punched her ticket to Tokyo. There, her first time on the world stage, she ran great times and made it to the semi-finals. However, her times were not low enough to get her to the finals of the race.

Still, it put her into the top tier of the most elite female one-mile runners in the world.

"It was my first go-around and I got a lot of experience," she said. "It will help me to move forward. I'm young for the sport and being a semi-finalist in the Olympics is a huge achievement for me at this point. It will really help me to focus on my goals for running and what I want to achieve in the sport."

MacLean said she didn't always pursue running, but got into it at the end of high school. Then, at UMass-Amherst, she began to improve exponentially. She competed in college and then travelled to Oregon this year for the Trials – and did well enough to get to Tokyo.

MacLean said she has a degree in Psychology and a Master's in Higher Education Administration.

And her favorite spot to hang out in Charlestown?

Clearly, the Anchor.

## OP-ED (from pg. 4)

massive number of great white sharks were watching in the near distance.

One thing the Taliban has taught us is that they are very patient. They knew the United States would finally become tired and financially broke and would leave. They have spent years organizing, planning and preparing for this moment and in a few week's time they totally humiliated America.

Many of us never wanted to be there but we didn't want to leave with the Taliban kicking our butts out the door. The horrific scenes of executions, tortures, rapes, and women treated inhumanely will be

graphic and repulsive in the weeks ahead.

We could have left differently. There could have been a plan. We demonstrated that we spent 20 years and really did not train an Army. We did not train or equip the people to care for themselves. We left without any support contingency in place for an obvious inept military and people. We displayed our ignorance and arrogant denial of the Taliban's preparedness to move forward. As quickly as flipping a light switch America conveyed to Afghanistan that we no longer give a dang.

Will the shame and humiliation of Afghanistan teach our politi-

cal leaders anything? Are we too arrogant to care? How many years will it take before politicians need another Afghanistan to line their pockets?

May the real true God who we pray to help the people of Afghanistan. At the moment, He is all they have.

*Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist – American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week in over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.*



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# ANCHOR AT SHIPYARD PARK HOSTS A SUMMER BASH

Photos by Seth Daniel

The Anchor at Shipyard Park held a Summer Bash on the waterfront in the Navy Yard on Wednesday, Aug. 11, on a warm summer night. With the fountain providing the backdrop, and some live music playing, those in attendance enjoyed the evening while playing cornhole or chatting over drinks.



Jared Ramos, Gabrielle Dougherty and Elizabeth Raflowitz relaxing at the Summer Bash.



Lumyr Derisier, Kahleil Blair and Sheritta Coleburn had a nice spot for the Summer Bash on the upstairs balcony.



Owner Chris Sinclair and Anchor Operator Shelby Elwell.



State Rep. Dan Ryan chats with Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) staffers Ted Schwartzberg, Chris Breen and Jason Ruggiero. The BPDA is a sponsor of The Anchor as part of the City's activation of the area.



Enjoying a prime waterfront view on a summer night was Jess Radlo and Amanda Tucker.



Anchor owner Chris Sinclair, with Raiza Fonseca, Heather MacLean, and Alison Doherty. MacLean used to work at the Anchor, and just returned from running the 1500 meter running event at the Tokyo Olympics.

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Navy Yard neighbors Lois Siegelman, Ruth Raphael and Nancy Krepelka.



From the City of Boston Office of Neighborhood Services Caitlin Stapleton (new Charlestown mayor-al liaison), Kim Cruciola and Molly Griffin.

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# SIXTH ANNUAL COOKIE JAR YOUTH ROLLER HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

Even though it was put on with limited time for planning, the sixth annual Cookie Jar Youth Roller Hockey tournament was played on August 14. With the help of some new volunteers and businesses around the community, volunteers were able to finish the competition in one day with Michael Lacy's Bar Down team winning both the senior and most Junior divisions. Winning the middle division was Team Jankowski out of South Boston.

The Chambers family would like to thank everyone for the help and support. Sponsors included McHugh Electric, RISE Construction, The Massachusetts National Guard, State Rep. Dan Ryan, Councilor and Mayoral candidate Anissa Essaibi George, The Warren Tavern, The Morrissey Family, The McGonagle Family, Century 21 Elite Realty Charlestown, Uncle Joe Mario and Century 21 Mario Real Estate East Boston, as well as the Boston Police Department, Toni Ann's Catering and the Boston Parks Department.

Shannon and Jamie Chambers would like to give a very, very special thank you to all the volunteers: Jenelle, Jimbo and Kelly Tucker, Referees, Mike Doe, Zeus Gambaro, and Cam DelValle, as well as anyone that helped fetch a ball out of play, kept time on the phone or helped keep the kids hydrated.

This tournament, as always, is in loving memory of Ryan 'Duce' Morrissey and Bryan McGonagle.



Michael Lacy's Bar Down Senior Division team with the Cookie Jar Cup.



Team Jankowski from South Boston took home the Middle Division trophy.



Players from the Junior Division squared off early Saturday morning.



Michael Lacy's Bar Down Junior Division team took home the Cup in their age group.

**9.11.2021**

## Save the Date for ART in the PARK

City Square Park, Charlestown,  
September 11, 2021 (rain date September 12)

 A photograph of an outdoor art fair or market. People are browsing through various art pieces displayed on tables and easels under a blue canopy. The scene is set in a park with trees and a bench.
 

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## ALEX GRAY

FOR AT-LARGE BOSTON CITY COUNCIL

 A photograph of Alex Gray, a man in a dark suit, standing on a city street. He is holding a cane and looking towards the camera. A yellow taxi is visible in the background.
 

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# HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MARGARET



Margaret Klessens, of Somerville and a native of Charlestown, is shown here celebrating her 97th birthday on August 17. She is shown here with her great-grandson, 2-month-old Jacob Thomas Szablack, the latest addition to the family.

# SAVE THE HARBOR/SAVE THE BAY



In summer 2021, Save the Harbor/Save the Bay is thrilled to be able to welcome youth and community groups back to the Boston Harbor. With safety protocols in place along with reduced capacity trips, they are excited to be back on the waterfront running their Catch of the Day Fishing Program, All Access Boston Harbor Program with trips to Spectacle Island, Boston Harbor Explorers Program at waterfront camps, and their Youth Leadership Development Program, which employs 40 Boston high school and college students. The Turn It Around youth have taken full advantage of these opportunities on numerous occasions. They were enthusiastic and dedicated participants in both the trips out to Spectacle Island on the All Access Cruises, and they caught a record number of fish while braving the rain on their most recent fishing trip! Save the Harbor's mission is to bring kids out to experience all that the Boston Harbor has to offer, and they have been delighted that the Charlestown Coalition is such an amazing partner to them.

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## Prayer service for US Troops scheduled for August 23 at the Monument

Staff Report

Community members have announced they are scheduling a prayer service at the Monument on Monday night, Aug. 23, at 6 p.m. for the US Troops and the situation that is unfolding in Afghanistan over the past few weeks.

Aileen Gorman of All Roads Charlestown said the event is meant to encourage Troops that are serving or have recently served overseas. The event will feature a prayer service for those Troops and the situation unfolding now.

It will also be a call to encourage Troops with thank you cards to the Troops and their families. Anyone wishing to make thank you cards

can drop them off at designated boxes that will be located at Starbucks, The Cooperative Bank and the Charlestown Community Center through Labor Day.

People can also include in the boxes names of their service men/women with a domestic mailing address, as all mail overseas has been stopped.

Harvest on Vine Emergency Food Pantry presents  
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Friends of the Charlestown Elderly  
**SPOOKTACULAR \$10,000**  
**Halloween Raffle Drawing**  
Only 200 tickets will be sold - \$100 per ticket  
Proceeds to support Charlestown Elderly Resident Activities  
Drawing will be held on October 31, 2021  
**Please call for a ticket**  
**(617) 398-2771 – (617) 997-3774 – (617) 777-0699**

# POST 26 HOLDS ITS ANNUAL INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

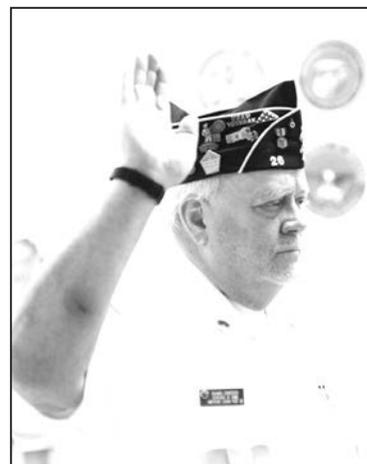
The J.W. Conway Bunker Hill Post 26 – The American Legion held its annual installation of officers on Saturday afternoon at their hall on Adams Street near the Training Field. The Legion has been integral in recognizing the veterans of the community and in helping to plan and put together the Battle of Bunker

Hill Day Parade. The Legion also hosts many events, and new Commander Stephen Delcuze – part of a youth movement in the organization – said he believes the new blood in the Legion will help to bring vibrancy and assist those who have been members for many years.

Photos by Seth Daniel



The new Judge Advocate Garrett Dubois is sworn in.



Richard Forrester takes the oath of office as the sergeant at arms.



Outgoing Senior Vice Commander Milton Lashus conducted the ceremonies on Saturday.



Grave Registration Officer Doc Sheehan, All Service Officer Sam Morris, Finance Officer Arthur Hurley, Post Adjutant Paul Marceau, and Senior Vice Commander Danny Noonan are sworn in.



Richard Forrester, Garrett Dubois, Danny Noonan, Sam Morris, Stephen Delcuze, State Rep. Dan Ryan, Arthur Hurley, Paul Marceau and Dan 'Doc' Sheehan.



State Rep. Dan Ryan and Michael Bonetti, of Councilor Lydia Edwards's office, presented new Commander Delcuze with commendations upon his entrance into office.

## Nation's Big-City Schools meet with Education Secretary to discuss the reopening of schools

Staff Report

U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona participated in a conference call today with superintendents from across the Council of the Great City Schools' urban district membership to discuss their efforts to reopen schools and resume in-person learning. Secretary Cardona and the urban education leaders had a robust conversation about back-to-school efforts, as well as the Education Department's Return to School Roadmap. The guide sup-

ports educators and school leaders as they resume in-person learning and welcome students back into the classroom.

"We are immensely grateful to Secretary Cardona for his assistance in helping urban school districts return to in-person learning, while protecting the safety and well-being of their students and staff," said Council Executive Director Ray Hart. "Under Secretary Cardona's leadership, the Education Department has played a crucial role in providing the nation's big-city schools with

the necessary funds and resources to help students and schools recover from the devastating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and we look forward to continuing this vital partnership."

The Council also reiterated its support for the dauntless work of its urban member districts in navigating shifting health mandates and prioritizing the health of students and staff, including those districts who are implementing mask requirements in response to rising infection rates in localities across the nation.



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Caitlin Stapleton has been named the new mayoral liaison for Charlestown.

# Caitlin Stapleton named as new mayoral liaison in Charlestown

Staff Report

Acting Mayor Kim Janey on Wednesday announced the appointment of Caitlin Stapleton as the neighborhood liaison for the Office of Neighborhood Services (ONS).

Stapleton will serve as the primary contact for constituents and businesses looking to connect with the Mayor's Office, and will facilitate the delivery of services in collaboration with City departments.

"I am excited to welcome Caitlin

to the Office of Neighborhood Services," said Janey. "I am confident that her love for the community she represents, and Boston as a whole, will help her serve our residents."

Stapleton grew up in the Adams Village neighborhood of Dorchester. She attended

Saint Brendan's and Elizabeth Seton Academy. She studied Communications at the University of Maine, Orono.

"After working in Charlestown, at Monument Restaurant and Tavern, I have built many relationships within the community and I am excited to continue building

on these relationships and forming new ones," said Stapleton. "I look forward to serving Charlestown through the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services."

In her free time Caitlin likes to travel and spend time with family and friends.

## Acting Mayor Janey's next Movie Night is Aug. 31

Staff Report

The Boston Parks and Recreation Department ParkARTS program presents Acting Mayor Kim Janey's Movie Nights in nine local City of Boston parks from Monday, August 9, through Friday, September 10.

All shows begin at dusk. The series is sponsored by Bank of America and Xfinity, and hosted by Mayor Kim Janey and the Boston

Parks and Recreation Department. Additional support is provided by the Mayor's Office of Tourism, Sports, and Entertainment and media partner JAM'N 94.5.

Dates and locations in the area are as follows:

•Tuesday, August 31

"The Croods: A New Age"

Doherty Playground

349 Bunker Hill Street, Charlestown, 02129

•Friday, September 10

"Star Wars: The Rise of

Skywalker"

Boston Common

38 Beacon Street, Boston, 02108

All ParkARTS performances are free of charge. For more information, please call (617) 635-4505.

To stay up to date with Parks Department news, events, and projects, sign up for our email list at [bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails](https://bit.ly/Get-Parks-Emails) and follow our social channels @boston-parksdept on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram.

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## CHARLESTOWN BEAT

**POLICE/COMMUNITY MEETING:** Meet the police & discuss public safety issues on the last Wednesday of every month at the police station, 20 Vine Street, at 6:00 p.m., 2nd floor, community room.

**POLICE RELATED INFO:** Contact the District A-1 Community Service Office at 617-343-4627.

### Motor Vehicle Accident-Property Damage

08/15/2021 - Officer responded to a radio call at approximately 5:34 a.m. for a motor vehicle accident at West Street and Alford streets.

Upon arrival, the officer observed a black Mercedes crashed into the guardrail on the Sullivan Square rotary. The officer asked the driver what happened, and he could not articulate how the vehicle ended up in the barrier. The driver said his car collided with the rail.

Both the driver and passenger declined medical attention at this time. The steering wheel airbag was deployed, and the vehicle had heavy front-end damage. A state citation was issued for ('UNLICENSED OPERATION OF MV c90 §10) and Criminal

Complaint was subsequently filed with Charlestown District Court.

### Fire Report

08/12/2021 - Police responded to a radio call at around 12:34 p.m. for a motor vehicle fire located at Rutherford Avenue and Austin Street.

Upon arrival, Boston Fire was extinguishing the blaze. The vehicle was stopped in the right-turn-only lane coming off Rutherford Avenue and onto Austin Street. Bunker Hill Community College Police were also on scene and informed the officer that the occupants were safely out of the vehicle. The operator of the motor vehicle stated that something was wrong with the car, and there appeared to be a fire underneath the vehicle. Shortly after that, the car fully caught on fire. The vehi-

cle fire was extinguished by Boston Fire, and a tow was requested.

### Fraud-False Pretense/Scheme

08/10/2021 - A victim walked into Area A-15 headquarters to file a Fraud by False Pretense report.

The victim stated he was surfing the internet, when an alert popped up on the screen that read "Trojan Spyware Alert" and instructing him to contact Microsoft. The victim got the number given and spoke with a representative who identified himself as "John Wilson." Wilson required the victim to purchase \$200 in Microsoft Xbox gift cards or purchase Microsoft Security Software. While the scammer stayed on the line, the victim went to CVS, returned home, and then gave the suspect the gift card numbers over the phone. After completing the transaction Anderson said, "it just didn't feel right," so he googled and contacted Microsoft. Microsoft informed him that they had not contacted him and advised him to reach his financial institutions to ensure nothing had been compromised.

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## Please Recycle

# Parks Department, Boston Transportation to convene meetings in September about open space transformation

By Seth Daniel

The Boston Parks Department, the Boston Transportation Department (BTD) and private developers like Hood Park will convene an overall series of visioning meetings for what will be a transformative change in open space from Ryan Playground all the way down the Rutherford Avenue corridor.

The Parks Department has said it is raring to go on the major reconfiguration and renovation of Ryan Playground, and they want to make those renovations in concert with the BTD that will be bringing new open space to

Sullivan Square in the next five years, and private developers like Hood Park that will bring online the large Hood Green fronting Rutherford Avenue within the next three years.

“Boston Parks and Recreation will be starting off the community process for Improvements to Ryan Playground in Charlestown,” read a meeting notice from Parks. “Boston Parks will hold an online meeting to discuss the goals of the community for this renovation and any current concerns with the site that the Ryan Playground project could address. Please come and share your thoughts.”

That meeting will be on Weds., Sept. 15, at 6 p.m. via Zoom.

However, there are many projects on the corridor, and within the Ryan Playground discussion, all parties want to make sure the community can give input on planning them all so there is a cohesive plan for that massive influx of open space into a small and emerging area of the neighborhood.

The Hood Green will be a one-acre open space that is only loosely defined at the moment and would come when the company starts to build the 10 Stack St. tower on their campus, which could be estimated at about three years out.

Mark Rosenshein, of Trademark Partners and representing Hood, said they wanted to

have a larger conversation within the Ryan Playground discussion that would include their property as well.

“Over the next two months, a number of these dialogs about open space will begin to take place,” he said. “We all want to plan all three concurrently and make sure there is no duplication in what we offer.”

The project page for that renovation is [boston.gov/Ryan-Charlestown](http://boston.gov/Ryan-Charlestown).

While those two will be held together, the BTD piece will happen a little separately, but not in a vacuum.

A Sullivan Square Open Space meeting will take place on

Thursday, Sept. 23, at 6 p.m. on Zoom. That will take into consideration Ryan Playground and Hood Green, but will focus on the large amounts of new open space created by the Rutherford Avenue/Sullivan Square Re-Design process. That project is still a few years out, but it will create tons of new open space on the Square when the traffic circle is closed down, and it will also create a massive green corridor down Rutherford Avenue to City Square. In essence, it will make from City Square to Ryan Playground a new green space corridor for the Town.

## Encore Boston Harbor announces opening of WynnBET Sports Bar

Staff Report

Encore Boston Harbor announced that, pending regulatory approval, WynnBET Sports Bar will open on Saturday, Sept. 4.

Located on the resort's casino floor, the space will feature more than 60 televisions, a 10-foot high and 123-foot-long immersive video wall, a collection of trophies, a full-service bar and cuisine from Shake Shack and Frank & Nick's, the second concept by Frank DePasquale and Nick Varano within the resort.

“Encore Boston Harbor is lucky to be located in one of the best sports cities in the world with some of the most loyal and avid fans,” said Jenny Holaday, Encore Boston Harbor President. “We wanted to offer our guests a place where they can watch their favorite teams in a state-of-the-art venue, surrounded by TVs, great food and near the excitement and action of the gaming floor.”

Guests will be in awe as live games and sports classics play on more than 60 TVs throughout the venue, as well as on a 1,230-square-foot immersive video wall. A 15-seat full-service bar with tabletop video poker sits in the middle of the venue, while dining and lounge seating surround the space including more than 40 VIP seats and reclining media chairs providing the ultimate experience. An extra-large spherical digital display

will exhibit the top sports scores from around the world and suspended sports equipment, a collection of trophies, classic sports accessories, and a collage of historical images of local sports heroes and events will decorate the space.

Veteran restaurateurs Frank DePasquale and Nick Varano of Fratelli, and owners of over a dozen Italian concepts in Boston's North End, will bring Frank & Nick's, an approachable and casual dining concept, to WynnBET Sports Bar. Guests will enjoy a delicious variety of Italian fare via counter-service or grab and go. The menu features artisanal paninis including meatball, eggplant and chicken parmesan, all served on house-made bread, as well as brick oven pizzas, salads, homemade roast beef and a variety of coffees and desserts.

With more than 300 locations globally, Shake Shack offers fresh, simple, high-quality food as a modern-day burger stand. Whether grabbing something to-go or sitting down to enjoy a meal while watching a game, patrons will enjoy favorites such as the ShackBurger, crinkle-cut fries and hand-spun classic and specialty shakes.

The WynnBET Sports Bar is open daily from 10 a.m. until 2 a.m., Frank & Nick's will be open daily from 11 a.m. until 3 a.m. and Shake Shack will be open from 11 a.m. until 2 a.m. For more details, visit [encorebostonharbor.com](http://encorebostonharbor.com).

## Real Estate Transfers

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Hughes, Paul G	Sweetser, Adrienne H	5 Hathon Sq #2	\$643,500
Nardella, David C	Corse, Neil	66 High St #4	\$860,000
Drinkwater, Gary	60 Chappie Street LLC	486-490 Medford St #488	\$1,399,000
Brown, Gregory	Burek, Andrew D	506 Medford St	\$729,900
Braun, Daniel	Katilus, Deborah	95 Pearl St #2	\$580,000
Doyle, Leslie A	Pickul, Christopher W	30 Polk St #302	\$635,000
Mileski, Karen S	Goldsmith, Paul	34 Russell St	\$1,157,000
Richardson, Sarah M	Straw, Ryan	25 Trenton St #1	\$724,000
Cook, Jennifer	Beale, Ryan S	56 Union St #3	\$1,120,000

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<sup>1</sup> Annual Percentage Rate ("APR") and Interest Rate ("Rate") are effective July 2, 2021 and are subject to change without notice. The APR and Rate are calculated using a loan amount of \$548,251 for a term of 30 years or 360 months and a down payment of 20%. Payments are \$4.15 per \$1,000 borrowed. Payment does not include taxes and insurance, your payment may be greater. Complete application required, with approval subject to meeting underwriting qualifications. Available on owner occupied, 1-4 unit (condominiums must meet CSB's condo guidelines), purchase transactions with a maximum loan amount of \$2,000,000 for up to 60 days lock period. Fees and closing costs may apply. This rate and APR are not available for programs offering discounted rates or closing costs. Please inquire. NMLS ID# 543370 MOR-0233b Rev. 7/21